

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS ON GENEVA TALKS, DECEMBER 17

1. PRESS COMMENT TODAY CENTERS LARGELY ON ANGLO-AMERICAN
STRATEGY FOR RICHARD'S TALKS IN AFRICA BEFORE THE CON-
FERENCE RESUMES.

2. THE GUARDIAN'S DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT WRITES: "THE
ANGLO-AMERICAN STRATEGY IS TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF
SOUTH AFRICA FOR AN OPERATION THAT WILL REPEAT THE
STRATEGY OF LAST SEPTEMBER, WHEN MR. VORSTER JOINED DR.
KISSINGER IN SUPPLYING THE MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON MR. IAN
SMITH."

3. FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENT BRIDGET BLOOM: "TALKS
AIMED AT ALIGNING BRITISH AND AMERICAN POLICY IN THE NEXT
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KEY PHASE OF THE RHODESIA SETTLEMENT ISSUE TOOK PLACE IN
LONDON YESTERDAY.
THE DAY-LONG DISCUSSIONS WERE CHAIRED BY MR. TED
ROWLANDS, THE FOREIGN OFFICE MINISTER IN CHARGE OF
AFRICA, AND ATTENDED BY MR. IVOR RICHARD AND THREE SENIOR
STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS, LED BY MR. JOHN REINHARDT,

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A MISSION TO KEY FRONTLINE AFRICAN STATES. ALTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL DETAILS OF THE TALKS WERE RELEASED, THEY ARE SEEN AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THOSE HELD IN LONDON TEN DAYS AGO BY MR. ANTHONY CROSLAND, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, AND DR. KISSINGER. THEIR PURPOSE IS APPARENTLY TO WORK OUT JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN STRATEGY AND TACTICS TOWARDS THE KEY TALKS WHICH MR. RICHARD WILL BE UNDERTAKING IN AFRICA BEFORE THE RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE."

4. ECONOMIST ARTICLE: "THE KISSINGER FORMULA FOR A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT IS DEAD. AFTER SEVEN WEEKS OF TALKING IN GENEVA, THAT MUCH AT LEAST IS CLEAR. SO IS BRITAIN'S RELUCTANT DECISION TO GET INVOLVED IN WHATEVER INTERIM GOVERNMENT IS EVENTUALLY FORMULATED. THE NEXT MOVE IS PARTLY, BUT ONLY PARTLY, UP TO IVOR RICHARD.... ALTHOUGH MR. KISSINGER HAS SAID THAT HE HIMSELF WILL BE PLAYING NO FURTHER DIRECT PART IN RHODESIA'S AFFAIRS, ANY HOPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION DEPENDS ON AMERICA'S WILLINGNESS TO JOIN BRITAIN IN PUSHING AND PULLING."

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